

the devastating drought affecting Utah this year.

Ninety percent of the West is experiencing extreme drought conditions. This includes every county in the great State of Utah—already one of the driest States in the Union.

Drought impacts lives and livelihoods. One of the Juab County farmers in my district runs a farm that has been in his family for three generations. This year, his farm has yielded zero output because of the drought. Unfortunately, his story is not unique.

Aquifers are not recharging, springs are dry, wells are pumping harder than ever before, and farmers are facing increased power costs. This means fewer crops and fewer dollars in the pockets of our rural farmers. On top of that, Utah's drought conditions make devastating wildfires more likely and harder to fight.

Each one of us has an important role to play in conserving resources and adapting for the near future and beyond. Utah's livelihoods and generational family farms are at stake, and I stand ready to assist local leaders and our State's Federal delegation to ensure the safety and prosperity of every Utahn.

I call upon the Biden administration to step up their efforts on the interagency working group that is supposed to be addressing these severe conditions.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE SUE MYRICK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mr. BISHOP) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize former U.S. Representative Sue Myrick who has a landmark birthday this Sunday.

Congresswoman Myrick served the people of North Carolina's Ninth Congressional District from 1995 to 2013. Before that, Sue made history in 1987 when she scored a major upset against a two-term Democrat to become the first female mayor of Charlotte. Importantly, before politics, Sue was known for her faith life as a Sunday school teacher and private sector career as an advertising executive.

In Congress for the Ninth District, Sue was a notable and effective conservative chairing the Republican Study Committee. Protecting America from foreign threats and securing our border defined her congressional career. As important, she was and is kind and caring, and she provided legendary constituent service. I am honored to serve in her place today and fondly remember her campaign slogan: We need Sue Myrick in Congress because "Sue Myrick gets things done."

Happy birthday to Sue.

□ 1045

REQUEST TO CONSIDER H.R. 18, NO TAXPAYER FUNDING FOR ABOR- TION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. HICE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today as a staunch defender of the rights of the unborn, as a defender of the idea that human life begins at conception. But these ideals are being threatened today like never before.

This week, I join my fellow Republicans in speaking out in support of the Hyde amendment and other pro-life provisions stripped from appropriations bills by the Democratic majority.

The Hyde amendment is and has been a bipartisan provision included in every Federal spending measure for the past four decades. It has ensured that the lives of the unborn are protected and that no Federal tax dollars are used to fund abortions.

Very simply, the Hyde amendment saves lives.

I am committed to ending the blight of abortion on our Nation and to stand with all I have to fight to protect the rights and the lives of the unborn.

My Democratic colleagues are great at changing terms and changing names. By definition, healthcare protects and improves lives, yet Democrats changed "healthcare" to include abortion. But abortion does not improve or defend life; it takes life. It is not healthcare.

For this reason, Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 18, and I ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the House is in session solely for the purpose of conducting morning-hour debate. Therefore, that unanimous consent request cannot be entertained at this time.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 47 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. SCANLON) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Holy God, bring this day into Your keeping. As much as we want to grab the reins and take charge, relieve us of our own need to control everything in our way, our inclination to disparage people with whom we can't see eye to eye, and our innate fear of the uncertainties that threaten our sense of security.

You alone have dominion over our days. You alone bring order out of chaos. May we yield our whole selves to Your authority.

Guide all our thoughts and feelings. Direct our energies that we would not become tangled in futile efforts and vain arguments.

Instruct our minds. May we not rely on our own understanding, but trust Your direction to make our paths straight. Sustain our wills and our bodies as long hours turn into late nights and little rest devolves into short tempers.

Into Your hands may we willingly and faithfully commend the business of this day.

In the strength of Your name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. VALADAO) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. VALADAO led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

FUNDING PACKAGE THAT PRIORITIZES WORKERS, FAMIL- LIES, AND COMMUNITIES

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4502, a funding package that prioritizes workers, families, and communities.

This bill delivers in a major way for Buffalo and western New York. It will fight cancer in underserved neighborhoods by helping Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center establish a lung cancer screening registry.

It preserves local history at the Buffalo Naval Park and the Albright-Knox